

Council Highlights

March 7, 1997

Roger Kimura MD, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Dr Spangler, President at 5:38 pm.

Those present were Drs L. Howard, Treasurer; C. Lehman, Immediate Past-President; AMA Delegates: C. Kam, A. Kunimoto; Alternate AMA Delegate: F. Holschuh, S. Wallach; Speaker: H.K.W. Chinn, Vice-Speaker: P. Blanchette; County Presidents: W. Dang, Jr., Honolulu; J. Betwee, Maui; G. McKenna, Kauai; A. Bairos - W. Chang, W. Dang, G. Goto, J. Lumeng, J. McDonnell, R. Stodd; Young Physician Delegate: G. Caputy; HMA Alliance: C. Gutteling

HMA Staff: J. Won, B. Kendro, J. Asato, P. Kawamoto, A. Rogness - recording secretary.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 10, 1997 meeting were approved as circulated.

- Dr Spangler reported: 1) that the Hilo community is honoring retired Senator Richard Matsuura on March 9 and that he and other physicians from HMA will attend. The HMA will present him with a letter of commendation and a plaque. 2) The special House of Delegates will be meeting on April 5 at 12:30 at the HMA office to receive the Reorganization Task Force's report. There will be no Council meeting in April; 3) He received a letter from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services stating that there is no scientific data that marijuana is a safe and effective drug in treating patients.

- Mrs Gutteling reported on the Doctors' Day Ball which will be held on March 29th and encouraged physicians to attend. The proceeds will go to the AMA-ERF, UH John A. Burns School of Medicine. The Alliance will once again take out a two page ad in the newspaper in honor of Doctors' Day. There will be a proclamation signing for Doctors' Day with the Governor and Mayor. The Presidents of the HMA and HCMS are invited to attend the signing. The Alliance also thanked Council for the \$3,500 given to them in support of their projects. The Alliance reported 104 registered and paid members. The membership dues is \$50. Physicians are encouraged to have their spouses join. Council gave the Alliance a round of applause for their hard work on behalf of physicians.

For Action

- Council approved the payment of OSMAP dues in the amount of \$200 and the AMA Federation dues in the amount of \$750.
- Council approved Finance Factors mortgage package as a benefit to members and will announce it in the newsletter.
- Council agreed that the HMA do its own directory of physicians in-house.
- Council approved the Finance Committee's recommendation to stay with SEI as the portfolio managers for the HMA Employees Retirement Plan.
- Council approved the Tobacco Task Force's recommendation to put HMA's logo on the anti-Tobacco posters which are to be distributed to physician offices and 3rd and 4th grade classrooms in the State.
- Council approved the Annual Meeting Committee's recommendations 1 - 6 for the exhibit booth fee, exhibit fee booth waiver with support of the scientific program, speaker honorarium, registration fees, proposed 1997 budget and to allow a pharmaceutical company to produce tote bags with HMA's logo on it.
- Council approved the Public Relations Committee's recommendation that the Distinguished Medical reporting awards be presented at the June 6 Council meeting to which only the winners and their bosses would be invited.
- Council approved the Executive Committee's recommendation to send out the Dept. of Health Diabetes Control Program's corrected Survey to physicians in the state at little or no cost to the HMA.
- Council passed a motion that HMA's Counsel contact the Regulated Industries Complaints Office to discuss changing the language of the reports on physicians given out to the public.

Component Society Reports

Kauai.—Dr G. McKenna reported that Kauai County Medical Society met in January and he was elected the new President. They are considering a

public relations campaign on the island where physicians in the society would write articles or volunteer to give talks on local radio or T.V. identifying themselves as Kauai County members. They want to increase the public's knowledge on issues facing them, such as managed care, etc.

Honolulu.—Dr W. Dang, Jr. reported that Honolulu County had their first county society meeting where Susan Chandler did a presentation on the QUEST program. Representatives from all the provider plans attended and there was an interesting exchange of questions. The next county society meeting will be in April where Keith Kamita from the local DEA office will talk about the pressures on physicians.

Hawaii.—Dr Spangler reported for Dr L. Sonoda-Fogel that their county society had their first meeting on February 6. With the help of the Alliance, the previous scholarship program will be reinitiated. They will be having another summer family picnic and hope to recruit new members.

Maui.—Dr J. Betwee reported that their county society will also be having a meeting with Keith Kamita from the local DEA office and David Karp of M.I.E.C. in May. They will also be having a joint-sponsored CME venture with Parke-Davis on Diabetes.

For Information

Health and Fitness Expo.—The anti-smoking character "The Extinguisher" from the AMA was enjoyed by both children and adults at the expo. Dr Holschuh complimented Mr Jon Won and the Tobacco Task Force for their work at the Expo.

Legislative Committee.—At this point in time it is not sure what will come out of the No-Fault bill. Dr Wallach met with Keith Kamita of the local DEA office regarding certain drugs and their classification. Dr Howard reported that there are 128 active bills that involve medicine that HMA is watching, such as early intervention, volunteer services, elderly care, controlled substances, etc.

Physicians Accessing the Internet.—This is a hands-on course which will be held on Saturday, April 19. There will be two sessions. Session 1 from 8:00 - 12:15 and Session 2 from 1 pm. - 5:15 pm. HMA member is \$35, Nonmember \$110.

HMSA Pilot Project.—Dr Lehman reported that this is a pilot project to reward physicians who are fee for service for various contributions. Two physicians represent HMA on this project, Drs C. Lehman and J. Lumeng. It was questioned that if participating in this program is measuring quality of care. It was felt that the project is looking more at cost effectiveness which may reduce utilization of services. Drs Lehman and Lumeng will continue to attend the meetings and monitor the project.

MIEC.—A deductible program for professional liability through MIEC's Claremont Liability Insurance Company will be available in the near future. Informational sessions will be held. This program will be available to MIEC policyholders and nonpolicyholders, HMA members or nonmembers.

Special Report of the HMA Nominating Committee.—Dr Stodd reported that the Nominating Committee met just before Council. The Montana-Wyoming PRO board requires that they have 8 members from Hawaii on their PRO board (6 members of the HMA and 2 nonmembers) It was directed by the Executive Committee that the Nominating Committee select the members. The Committee nominated physicians from the neighbor island and Honolulu who have experience in evaluating medical quality of care. The slate is as follows: One Year Terms: Drs Sakae Uehara and Geoffrey Galbraith; Two year terms: Stephen Wallach, Paul Esaki and John Berthiaume; Three year terms: Frederick Holschuh, Joe Palmer and Stephen Kemble.

Labeling of Prescriptions.—Dr Howard received a letter from Senator Cal Kawamoto kindly asking him to remind physicians about compliance with the prescription labeling law. Physicians must ask their patients if they want their diagnosis labeled on the prescription. It was felt by Council that the symptom not the diagnosis should be placed on the label. Dr Howard will discuss this with Senator Kawamoto.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.